Tsunami Early Warning Centre in Andhra Pradesh

189. SHRI B.J. PANDA:

MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tsunami Early Warning Centre has been set up in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also proposed to set up two more Centre of Excellence under this system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, *inter-alia* indicating those that are proposed to be set up in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has established on Early Warning System for Tsunami in Indian Ocean at Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh on 24x7 basis. This system, which was dedicated to the nation on 15 October 2007, receives near real time seismic signals for monitoring earthquakes capable of generating tsunamis, observes real time changes in the sea level and validates propagation of tsunami waves, if any, through Bottom Pressure Sensors placed at sea bottom in the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea. The system is capable of generating alert and warning advisories for tsunami.

(c) No, Sir. The Tsunami Early Warning System established at INCOIS is for the whole country.

(d) Doesn't arise in view of (c) above.

Worsening condition of handloom weavers

190. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of various schemes the condition of handloom weavers is going from bad to worse;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this is one of the major sector for giving employment; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to help this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) No such reports have been received from the State Governments.

(b) and (c) The handloom sector provides employment to about 65 lakh handloom weavers and allied workers. In order to sustain the employmenst of weavers in Handloom Sector, the Government of India has introduced Integrated Hand looms Development Scheme, Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme, Handloom Weavers's Comprehensive Welfare Scheme, Mill Gate Price Scheme and Diversified Handloom Development Scheme to be implemented during the XI Five Year Plan. These schemes will enable die handloom weavers to enhance production, productivity and efficiency of the handloom sector and enhance their income and socio-economic status by upgrading their skills and providing infrastructural input and marketing support.